

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Techniques exporting data and metadata from a source database environment to a target database environment are provided. The techniques include the steps of analyzing metadata that describes one or more items, the data for which is in a source database, where the one or  
5 more items include at least one of a view, a sequence, a dimension, a cube, an ETL mapping, and any database object for which the metadata is stored outside of the source and target databases. The data for each item resides in a data file associated with the source database. The data for each item is incorporated into the target database based on the metadata by providing the target database access to an incorporated data file, where the incorporated data  
10 file is the data file or a copy thereof. Techniques are also provided for exporting database data from the source database. The techniques include extracting metadata that describes one or more items, the data for which is in the source database, where the one or more items include at least one of the structures described above. The data for each item resides in a data file associated with the source database. After the exporting, a database server that  
15 manages the target database is provided access to an incorporated data file, where the incorporated data file is the data file or a copy thereof.